

Indonesia seizes nearly 700 endangered turtles

April 1 2013



Indonesian officials display a rare pig-nosed turtle at the Soekarno-Hatta airport in Jakarta, on April 1, 2013. Indonesian authorities have seized nearly 700 endangered pig-nosed turtles at the main airport serving Jakarta.

Indonesian authorities have seized nearly 700 endangered pig-nosed turtles at the main airport serving the capital Jakarta, an official said Monday.

The [turtles](#), which were less than a month old, had been transported from the easternmost province of Papua to Soekarno-Hatta airport on a local carrier but their final destination was unknown, said quarantine official Teguh Samudro.

"We don't know where they were being sent as the address on the package does not exist," the official said. The turtles would be released back into their [native habitat](#) in Papua soon, he added.

The 687 pig-nosed turtles, a species distinguishable by its fleshy snout-like nose, arrived at the airport on March 15 but officials did not know who had sent them.

Under Indonesian law, the offence carries a maximum three-year jail term and a fine of 150 million rupiah (\$15,406).

Pig-nosed turtles are listed under the Convention on International Trade in [Endangered Species](#), which imposes international trade restrictions to protect species from over-exploitation.

(c) 2013 AFP

Citation: Indonesia seizes nearly 700 endangered turtles (2013, April 1) retrieved 11 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2013-04-indonesia-seizes-endangered-turtles.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--